

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NOUAKC 00928 271245Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00 /024 W

-----271247Z 011267 /53

R 270830Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7369

C O N F I D E N T I A L NOUAKCHOTT 0928

FOR AF/W

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORC, EFIN, OVIP, MR

SUBJECT: SURPRISE TRAVEL OF MAURITANIAN PLANNING MINISTER TO US

1. MAURITANIAN MINISTER PLANNING, IBRAHIMA BA, DEPARTED NOUAKCHOTT MONDAY EVENING APRIL 25 FOR WASHINGTON TO ATTEND IBRD OR IMF COMMITTEE MEETING. ACCORDING TO MICHEL MOHAMEDOU, DIRECTOR OF FINANCING AND FOREIGN AID IN PLANNING MINISTRY WHO ACCOMPANIED MINISTER, WASHINGTON TRIP WAS LAST MINUTE DECISION. MINISTER'S PASSPORT REINFORCES UNPLANNED NATURE OF TRIP SINCE TRAVEL TO US OVERRODE OTHER PREVIOUSLY SCHEDULED AND VISAED TRAVEL PLANS. CIRCUMSTANCES SURROUNDING US TRIP, MOREOVER, UNDERSCORE UNANTICIPATED AND UNPLANNED NATURE OF WASHINGTON VISIT: BA ACCOMPANIED PRESIDENT TO PEKING (APRIL 4-10), CONTINUED ON TO SUVA FOR LOME CONVENTION MEETING AND TRANSITTED US LAST WEEK ON WAY BACK TO MAURITANIA. HE WAS HERE FOR ONLY FIVE DAYS BEFORE LEAVING AGAIN.

2. FOR SEVERAL YEARS AS DIRECTOR PLANNING, BA WAS ONE OF THREE GIRM REPS TO IBRD/IMF ANNUAL MEETINGS. AS MINISTER, BA AND CENTRAL BANK GOVERNOR REPRESENTED GIRM AT 1976 ANNUAL MEETINGS IN MANILA. RESULT: HE IS PROFESSIONALLY AND PERSONALLY WELL KNOWN TO IBRD/IMF STAFF.

3. SINCE GIRM/IBRD PLANNING MINISTRY TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
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AND GIRM/IBRD SONADER SUPPORT PROJECTS HAVE REPORTEDLY BEEN SIGNED AND IMPLEMENTATION HAS BEGUN, THEY WOULD HARDLY SEEM TO BE REASON FOR MINISTER'S HASTY TRIP TO WASHINGTON. WHILE IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT GIRM IS FACING SUDDEN, CRITICAL AND URGENT BALANCE PAYMENTS PROBLEM, MORE LOGICAL TRAVEL IN THAT INSTANCE WOULD BE CENTRAL BANK GOVERNOR WHO HAS JUST RETURNED FROM MEETING OF GOVERNORS OF ARAB FUND

FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND FOUNDING MEETING OF
ARAB MONETARY FUND IN KUWAIT AND ABU DHABI. WOULD APPRE-
CIATE AF/W MAKING SERIES OF DISCREET INQUIRIES AROUND
WASHINGTON TO ASCERTAIN WHAT MAJOR OR MINOR CRISIS MADE
QUICK TRIP TO IBRD/IMF NECESSARY.

HANDYSIDE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MINISTERIAL VISITS, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 27-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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